

REMARKS

In response to the action of October 29, 2009 applicants ask that all claims be allowed in view of the amendments to the claims and the following remarks. Claims 1, 6, 9 to 20, 35, 40, 43 to 71, 74, and 76 are currently pending, of which claims 1, 20, and 35 are independent. Claim 75 has been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer of subject matter.

Claim 75 has been rejected as being indefinite. Although applicants traverse this rejection, applicants have cancelled claim 75 to expedite prosecution. Applicants submit that cancellation of claim 75 renders this rejection moot.

All of the pending issues have been addressed. However, the absence of a reply to a specific rejection, issue or comment does not signify agreement with or concession of that rejection, issue or comment. In addition, because the arguments made above may not be exhaustive, there may be reasons for patentability of any or all pending claims (or other claims) that have not been expressed. Finally, nothing in this reply should be construed as an intent to concede any issue with regard to any claim, except as specifically stated in this reply, and the cancellation of any claim does not necessarily signify concession of unpatentability of the claim prior to its cancellation.

Pursuant to 37 CFR §1.136, applicants hereby petition that the period for response be extended for one month to and including March 1, 2010. The fee in the amount of \$130.00 in payment of the one-month extension of time fee is being paid concurrently herewith on the Electronic Filing System (EFS) by way of Deposit Account authorization.

Applicants submit that all claims are in condition for allowance. Please apply any charges or credits to deposit account 06-1050.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: March 1, 2010

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